

January 10, 1972

Minutes of the BICC General Membership Meeting held on Monday, January 10, 1972, at Vail Hall, N.J. Bell Telephone Co., 540 Broad Street, Newark, N.J.

ATTENDANCE

Roland E. Stewart - Exec. Director	BICC
Jules Lozowick - Co-chairman	Western Electric - Newark
Richard Proctor - Co-chairman	Model Cities
Barbara Parker	BICC
Louise Epperson	Martland Medical Center
J.G. Washington	Martland Medical Center
H.M. Groce Jr.	College of Medicine & Dentistry
Ed Wilson	Martland Medical Center
Eugene Campbell	O.N.E.
Henry Cade	Central Presbyterian
Frank Gibson Jr.	Newark Presbytery
C.R. O'Connor	Rutgers
J.H. Cassedy	N.J. Bell Telephone Co.
Connie Woodruff	ILGWU
Julius Kazin	Youth Opportunity Center
George Wibecan	Prudential
Alphonse Okibedi	Essex County College
Pedro Iglesias	Pre-School
M.B. Wilcox	Westinghouse
Charles W. Breeze	N.J. College of Medicine & Dentistry
Charles W. Breeze Jr	Observer
Marshall Wolf	National Newark & Essex Bank
Stanley Terrell	Star Ledger
Ramiro Alba Ramos	United Community Corp.
Neal Clemens	N.J. State Training & Employ. Serv.
Adolfo Nogueras	Newark Human Rights Commission
Henry Asador	Model Cities
James Henderson	Project Equality
Ermen Chiner	Puerto Rican Ladies Action Society
J. W. Holmstaedter	N.J. Bell Telephone Company
Leslie Rupprecht	Newark Public Library
Diane Wiltshire	W.R.O.
Suzira Taseu	W.R.O.
Thomas Lamon	W.R.O.
Art Foley	College of Medicine & Dentistry
Richard Bregstein	College of Medicine & Dentistry
Tom Mann	Urban League
Tony O'Flaherty	Essex County Welfare Board
Al H. Vaughn	BICC
Joseph Ford	Community Relations Service-Justice Dept.
Ernest Bridges	General Electric
G.J. Van Burk	N.J. State Training Employ. Serv.
F.J. Frerichs	Fireman's Fund American
Julius Foster	Western Electric - Newark
Elsie H. Wilson	Community
John Payne	Western Electric - Newark
John S. Clarkson	Mutual Benefit Life
Ken Donaldson Jr.	Mutual Benefit Life
John Maguire	Public Service Gas & Electric
Sylvester A. East	Hart Realty

The meeting was called to order by Dick Proctor, Co-Chairman, with self introduction of all present. Mr. Proctor welcomed the audience to BICC's first meeting of 1972. The Co-Chairman called on the committees for their reports.

Candidate For Co-Chairman - Business Sector

John Maguire reported, that after receiving word that Co-Chairman Marshall Wolf would no longer be available for co-chairmanship for the Business Sector, the nominating committee consisting of Charles Garrison, William Hoffman, and Mr. Maguire took an internal audit of BICC to find a candidate qualified for this position. The committee recommended and nominated Jules Lozowick for Co-Chairman for the Business Sector. Mr. Lozowick is Community Relations Manager of Western Electric - Newark, and has served many years as the co-chairman of the BICC Testing Committee. The chair entertained nominations from the floor for other candidates. No other nominations were received from the floor. A motion was made and seconded in favor of Jules Lozowick, who with a unanimous decision was elected Co-Chairman - Business Sector of BICC. Richard Proctor - Co-chairman, for

the community side offered congratulations, and asked Mr. Lozowick to preside over the rest of the meeting.

JULES LOZOWICK NEWLY APPOINTED CO-CHAIRMAN/BUSINESS SECTION

Mr. Lozowick recapped for the audience the main objectives of BICC. He stated that BICC's main objective is to secure jobs for minority people, and secondly to provide a communications path between various communities in Greater Newark. Mr. Lozowick said a third objective was for BICC to become a catalyst and a resource to businesses involved in Affirmative Action Programs. He said that any overlapping between the Urban League, the Urban Coalition, and BICC is insignificant, for each complements the other. Instead of complaining about overlapping Mr. Lozowick said, he hoped more agencies would join in the fight, because as of today progress has been very slow. He stated it is significant that the Governor sought the assistance of Roland Stewart, Gustav Reinberg, and Earl Phillips to help settle peacefully the Rahway Thanksgiving Rebellion. It was to the credit of these three men, he said, who were able to act as resources and have a positive effect upon the thinking of the Governor and his cabinet.

Mr. Lozowick said if anyone believes this is an overlapping of functions, someone should tell us who the one person is who can speak for the non-white community. In closing the newly appointed co-chairman said he accepted the post because he thinks BICC can play a meaningful role in Newark. Richard Proctor then thanked Marshall Wolf the outgoing co-chairman for his contributions to BICC since 1963.

TASK FORCE

Bill Wilson reporting for the Task Force, said the committee's purpose is to insure affirmative action within the BICC member companies, and to make sure their direction is the same as the principles that BICC stands for. The committee is to see that member companies are sincere about hiring minorities, and have programs that will upgrade them without discrimination. Mr. Wilson said the job can't be done overnight, but the committee can see if the companies are committed in spirit as well as in word. Tom Mann added, that the Task Force had visited 12 companies and the committee will continue to increase the number of companies visited each month, to review their composition of minority employment. Mr. Mann said the Task Force will be paying particular attention to companies that have Puerto Rican employees. Some very disgusting situations have been uncovered that need immediate attention, and they are in the process of investigation.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Reporting for the Education Committee was Eugene Campbell, who said that his committee was in the process of getting the World of Finance Project funded, or at least acquiring the seed money to get it off the ground. The committee is trying to develop new ideas for 1972.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Roland Stewart reported that in talking about a budget last year for BICC amounting to \$450,000, as of January 11, 1972 we have commitments totaling \$101,000, \$58,000 from the Chamber of Commerce and an in-kind contribution from the Newark Board of Education, who has consented to give BICC three teachers for basic education courses, and most recently a teacher for an English as a Second Language class. Mutual Benefit has consented to give BICC \$1,500 toward the English as a Second Language project. Mr. Stewart said that at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of the year we are $\frac{1}{4}$ towards that \$450,000. The Director said he was very pleased with that kind of development and involvement of the business community. He stated that he was also pleased with the continued assistance and the material and financial help that the business community has given BICC towards our new quarters and Grand Opening at #50 Branford Place. Mr. Stewart extended an open invitation for the membership to come and visit and see what BICC is up to, and also to see the kinds of donations that have been coming from many of our friend well wishers and supporters. Mr. Stewart said, BICC is here to serve people, all people, so that they can ultimately wind up with a degree of dignity, to be self supporting and feeling like first class citizens.

The Executive Director of BICC introduced the guest speaker, Imam Amiri Bar (La Roi Jones) as a symbol of meaningful change, an object of controversy, whose life span has indeed had some hits, a lot of runs, and some errors. But a very human, human being.

IMAMU AMIRI BARAKA
Guest Speaker

Imamu Baraka speaking as the spiritual leader for the Committee for Unified Newark and also as Program Chairman of the Congress of African People, Nationalist Organizations, Black Nationalist Organizations, and African Organizations told the BICC audience he wanted to identify their position, and their point of view in this city and this country. Mr. Baraka said his organizations were trying to unite the Blacks and Puerto Ricans so that they could mature into a sophisticated political instrument. Imamu reported that more and more of the Black community are asking for what is called "self determination". That is to speak, represent, and determine what they want for themselves. He said some people will call this separatism, but if one is objective, one would find that there has never been intergration in America, because Black people have always been separated in America! Mr. Baraka said, there is need for change in the City of Newark and the country related to Blacks and Puerto Ricans, for they have helped to build, and have been slaves for this country. Therefore, their life style demands that they demand change. He reported that Blacks and Puerto Ricans are the most oppressed minority groups in America and understand the need for change. Not abstractly, or altruistically, or by theory, but mainly because they have to have change in the way that they live. Mr. Baraka said in speaking for the Nationalist, that they will continue to organize the Black community, to organize and create institutions, to transform potentials into power, through politics, economics and community organizing and development. He reported his organization constitutes a real presence in the Black community, and does not have to be aided by the mass media, because they are not an illusion, but constitute an actual position, an actual constituency. A constituency that is rapidly developing its skill and understanding of American politics and ways to develop power in America. In closing Mr. Baraka said he could be quoted as follows, "We are interested only in developing representative government in America and an equitable distribution of wealth." "That is the key to any further harmony or commerce between the powerful and the powerless."

Meeting adjourned at 7:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Barbara Parker